



Sovereign Grace Church

February 18th, 2024

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

*“Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the
LORD delivereth him out of them all.”*

(Psalm 34:19)

Joseph D Murphy, Pastor

(832) 995 7925 / joseph@sovereigngrace.us

Sovereign Grace Church

23033 Hughey Lane, New Caney, Texas 77357 / (832) 543-533

www.sovereigngracechurch.us

THE promise of God is not that His people shall be preserved from encountering trials, but from sinking under them. *“Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all.”* Though the afflictions remain, deliverance is effected because believers are supported amidst them, and brought safely through them. We are *not* told that “God is faithful, who will not suffer us to be tried” at all, but not above *“what we are able”* to endure. He does not say that with the temptation “He will send a way of escape out of the reach of it;” but so that we *“may be able to bear it.”*

—Copied

Welcome

SINNERS are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you’ll soon discover we’re an imperfect church, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God’s *undeserved* grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name Jesus for He shall (not might, not maybe) rather He shall save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it! You are *complete in Him*, saved to the *utmost* [Colossians 2:10, Hebrews 7:25].

Announcements

Happy Birthday!

Vicky Hicks, February 20th

Sovereign Grace Church, New Caney / Grace Conference

Elio Chay, Pastor of Seguidores de Cristo,
Dzidzantun, Mexico

*Friday, February 23rd @ 7:30 pm,
Saturday, February 24th @ 11 am,
Sunday, February 25th @ 11 am*

Resources

VISIT our website for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

Grace Articles

When He shall appear, we shall be like Him!

“Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:” (Philippians 1:6)

BEING confident, Paul says, I am sure, I am convinced of this. I am sure, *that He who has begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ*. So, there is no need to go back to the law. If we have believed, we must be confident. This is where we stand, brethren. We are confident that this work that the LORD began, or that God the Father began in the Lord Jesus Christ, there is nothing that we as believers can do to cooperate [or contribute] in order to perfect this work — He will do it, our Lord Jesus Christ will *perform it* [He will perfect it] because it is His responsibility alone, not man’s, not man’s, but only His. I read here, first of all, that He hath begun a good work. What is the good work? It’s regeneration;— regeneration, conviction, and salvation that He has given us. This is the good work; of pardon, regeneration, conversion, and salvation. The good work. It’s not a bad work, it’s a good work, a rich work for a poor sinner. And it began, it’s not yet finished. [You see,] we *are* saved, we are *being* saved, and we will *finally* be saved when we wake up in the likeness of Christ Jesus. What joy will the believer see? What a blessing it is for the believer? Can you bring to mind, waking up, and beholding the King of Kings, the only God and Saviour? So it shall be, brethren; His word teaches us this, may God bless you, God bless His word in each of your hearts; *“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is.”* (1 John 3:2).

— Elio Chay

Follow Me

“... and [the Lord] saith unto [Matthew], Follow me. And he arose, and followed Him.” (Matthew 9:9)

TO come to the Lord Jesus Christ, you don’t have to be a special person. The Lord Jesus Christ was very clear when He said that He came for sinners. He came for those people, and they are coming to Him. The word of God says that everyone who comes to Him, He will not cast out. It is in the nature of God to love, to love those whom He loved from eternity. It is His nature to love them. And here we see, if people came to Him, there’s a reason why they will come to Him—they will come to Him, because when the Lord Jesus Christ calls, no one resists Him. That’s the effectual calling that only God can make. A man, a preacher, can make calls, and they can convince a person. But the work of man will fade, but the work of our Lord, that work will remain forever. Because it’s a calling that He makes, and He knows whom He will call. It is also the way, even today, our Lord Jesus Christ, through the preaching of His Word, sending the Holy Spirit, using the Gospel, is bringing sinners to Himself, “He saith unto that sinner, *‘Follow me.’* And that sinner arose, and followed Him.

— Elio Chay

Christ Came To Save Sinners

“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”

(1 Timothy 1:15)

MY dear Friend,
I am happy to tell you that I am alive, and that the report of my death is not true. It has pleased the Lord, however, for the last few years to lay upon me His afflicting hand, so that I am not able as before to carry on the work of the ministry...

...I dare say you have not forgotten your visit to Stamford, and what you saw and heard there, though we were not able to converse so much as we could have done if we had understood one another's language. But I hope we understood a better language—even the language of Canaan. I have no doubt you have had your share of trials and afflictions since we parted, and I hope that they have been blessed and sanctified to your soul's spiritual good. It is through much tribulation that we enter the kingdom of God, and many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivereth him out of them all. This makes all the difference between the afflictions of the righteous and of the ungodly, that to the one the afflictions are a blessing and to the other a curse; for they soften the heart of the one, and they harden the heart of the other. In the case of the righteous, they instrumentally bring forth prayer and supplication to the Lord, and wean the heart from the world; but in the ungodly they only produce sullenness, self-pity, and rebellion. What a mercy it is to have a God to go to and to know that we have a merciful, sympathising High Priest at the right hand of the Father, who is touched with a feeling of our infirmities, and is able to save to the uttermost all who come unto God by Him. When we look at the majesty, holiness, justice, and purity of God, and seeing light in His light see also our own sinfulness and depravity; when we think of the numerous—yea, innumerable sins and crimes which we have committed in thought, word, and deed; when we see also our helplessness and inability to save or deliver our souls from the wrath to come, the sight and feeling of all these things is enough to sink our souls into despair. But when we see by the eye of faith what a Saviour God has provided for poor lost sinners in His dear Son, what a mighty Redeemer, ever-living Advocate, and all prevailing Mediator, then it raises up sweet hope and blessed encouragement, and the heart goes out after this divine Mediator in faith and love as feeling how suitable, how precious He is to those that believe. We thus learn that there is no salvation but by sovereign grace, that the Son of Man came to seek and to save that which was lost. We are very unwilling to see, much more to feel ourselves to be sinners, but it is only as sinners that we can be saved, for *“this is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that [Christ Jesus] came into the world to save sinners...”* (1 Timothy 1:15).

Yours in Christian affection,

— J.C. Philpot

A letter to a fellow believer